

anterior extremity of the corpus callosum ; the posterior cornua are rudimentary. The hippocampus major is well-defined and ends in a prominent pes ; the hippocampus minor is comparatively low and inconspicuous.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XXI.

- Fig. 1.—Upper view of the brain.
 „ 2.—Lower view of one half of the brain.
 „ 3.—Mesial longitudinal section.
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ON A NEW GENUS OF FISHES FROM PORT JACKSON.

BY WILLIAM MACLEAY, F.L.S. PLATE XXII.

The Fish here described was captured in a seine net at Watson's Bay by a fisherman, last Friday morning, was taken by Mr. Mulhall, Sub-Inspector of Fisheries, to Dr. Cox, and was by him presented to the Australian Museum. Finding it to be something perfectly new, I lost no time in transferring to paper as accurate a description of it as was possible under the circumstances, for unfortunately the taxidermist of the Institution had already skinned the fish, and thrown away the body. I have had therefore no means of ascertaining the size or shape of the air-bladder, or the number of pyloric appendages, and my measurement of the height of the body of the Fish as compared with its length, has been also to some degree a matter of guess work. For the genus I propose the name of *Psilocranium* from its bald head, and for the species that of the learned President of the Commissioners of Fisheries.

Genus PSILOCRANIUM.

Of elongate form, scarcely if at all laterally compressed. One dorsal fin, the soft portion much larger than the anal fin. Caudal fin forked. The lower rays of the pectoral fins simple. Teeth in a viliform band in both jaws. Præorbital and præoperculum entire. Scales large, thin, cycloid. Head naked, except on the operculum which is clothed with small non-imbricate scales embedded in the skin. Branchiostegals five, the inner one very small.

This Fish is clearly one of the *Cirrhitidæ*, but differs in a marked degree from all the genera included in that Family of the Perches. Its closest relationship however, is to *Chilodactylus*, a genus which is represented by numerous species on our Coasts, and which with its congeners the Trumpeters (*Latris*) are I think about the best food Fishes the sea provides us with. The most striking generic distinctions are to be found in the elongate almost cylindrical form of the body, and the bald head, *Chilodactylus* being of compressed form and having scaly cheeks.

PSILOCRANIUM COXII. n. sp.

D. 16/25. A. 3/10. L. lat. 46. L. tr. 4/10.

The height of the body at the highest part immediately behind the head, is less than one-fifth of the total length, the length of the head is about the same. The head is convex between the eyes; the eyes are large, situated about the middle of the length of the head, and about two of their diameters apart, the snout is convex, rounded and somewhat tumid at the extremity, the mouth is rather small, the lips very thick and fleshy, the maxillary does not nearly reach half-way to the eye, the intermaxillary is very protractile, the lower lip has a large fleshy fold beneath, and when the mouth is shut is received completely within the upper jaw. The only teeth are a band of fine villiform teeth in both jaws. The head is covered with a smooth soft skin, the side of the operculum is rough with small scales embedded in the skin, which extend towards the back part of the orbit. The lateral line is straight and situated near the back along its whole length. The scales of the body are large, thin, smooth edged and of an oblong square form. The dorsal fin is moderately notched, the seventh spine is the longest, being about $2\frac{1}{2}$ times in the height of the body, the soft dorsal gets gradually lower towards the tail, the caudal fin is large, broad, and deeply bilobed, the third anal spine is longer than the others, and is half the length of the first ray, the rays get shorter after the second, the pectorals have five simple rays, the upper, one-sixth longer than the next to it, extends to the tenth scale of the body.

The colour is blackish, with the scales of the body more or less silvery in the centre; two ill-defined silvery longitudinal bands are traceable on the caudal half of the body.* The fins are all black, the anal and ventrals have a lightish coloured edge.

The length of this fine fish from the snout to the extremity of the tail is 2 feet $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Since writing the foregoing I have seen three species of the *Cirrhitidae* from South Australia just received by the Australian Museum. One of them much resembles this Fish in many respects. It has large scales, naked cheeks, and a more elongate form than *Chilodactylus*, and might I think be placed in the present genus, but I am inclined to think that it is identical with the *C. nigricans* of Richardson, a species abundant at King George's Sound, and which he describes as being of a more elongate form than usual in the genus, and as being without scales on the cheek, though that he ascribes to accident. The other two South Australian species evidently belong to Mr. De Vis's genus *Dactylophora* (Proc. Linn. Soc., N. S. Wales. Vol. VIII. P. 284.) One of them indeed is his *D. semimaculata*.

NOTES AND EXHIBITS.

Dr. Cox exhibited a specimen of *Conus nodulosus*. He stated that an unique specimen was possessed by Mr. Taylor, from whose collection it was first described by Sowerby, in 1865, which was said to have come from Australia. Hitherto no second specimen had been recorded from Australia, but the one now exhibited had been sent to him by Mr. Flateau, of Melbourne, with a number of West Australian shells, to be named, and he concluded from that circumstance that it also had come from that locality. Dr. Cox also exhibited a specimen of *Conus abbas*, a rare species from West Australia.

Dr. Cox also exhibited some fine specimens of "water-stones," with globules of water enclosed. They were obtained from near

* This only shows on one side and is probably accidental.